

Saturday

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Awards pile up for wing members

U.S. Air Forces in Europe officials recently announced 1999 unit and individual awards winners in manpower and organization, maintenance (professional and effectiveness), and command and control.

In addition, 52nd Fighter Wing officials presented their annual maintenance awards March 4, and Air Force News announced its nominees for the Air Force Communications and Information Awards.

Here's a look at the winners and their USAFE categories:

Manpower and organization

- Maj. Bradley Hebing, field grade officer
- Tech. Sgt. Stephan Carey, junior NCO

Maintenance

- Senior Airman Jason C. Groth, 81st Fighter Squadron, professional award
- Staff Sgt. Christopher S. Montoya, 52nd Component Repair Squadron, professional award
- 52nd Logistics Support Squadron, effectiveness award

Command, control

- 52nd Munitions Support Squadron, Kleine Brogel AB, Belgium, MUNSS command post
- Senior Airman Denise R. Johnson, 52nd Fighter Wing, maintenance operations airman controller

Here's the wing **Lt. Gen. Leo Marquez** Aircraft Maintenance annual award winners and their categories:

Aircraft maintenance

- Maj. David W. Brown, 81st FS, field grade manager
- 1st Lt. Abigail L. White, 22nd Fighter Squadron, company grade manager
- Senior Master Sgt. James B. Abbott, 22nd FS, supervisor-manager
- Staff Sgt. James T. Templeton, 52nd Equipment Maintenance Squadron, supervisor-manager
- Airman 1st Class Edward S. Dealejandro, 52nd EMS, technician

Munitions, missile maintenance

- Capt. Matthew S. Poissot, 52nd Logistics Group, company grade manager
- Senior Master Sgt. Charles A. Grove, 52nd EMS, supervisor-manager
- Tech. Sgt. Steven J. Laser, 52nd MUNSS, technician-supervisor
- Senior Airman Jaime Lopez Jr., 52nd MUNSS, technician

Communications, electronics

- Capt. Ruben D. Oliva, 852nd Munitions Support Squadron, company grade manager
- Master Sgt. Cameron A. Bledsoe, 606th Air Control Squadron, supervisor-manager

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Unit proves none are better

LSS earns annual award for effective maintenance

By 1st Lt. Hall Sebren
Logistics operations flight commander

Members of the 52nd Logistics Support Squadron recently received proof positive of what they've known all along – there's none better.

That confirmation came in the form of the 1999 U.S. Air Force Maintenance Effectiveness Award.

"The people in LSS did some amazing things in 1999," said Maj. Michael Stickney, 52nd LSS commander. "I think it was the above and beyond not necessarily associated with a logistics support squadron, though, that put us over the top."

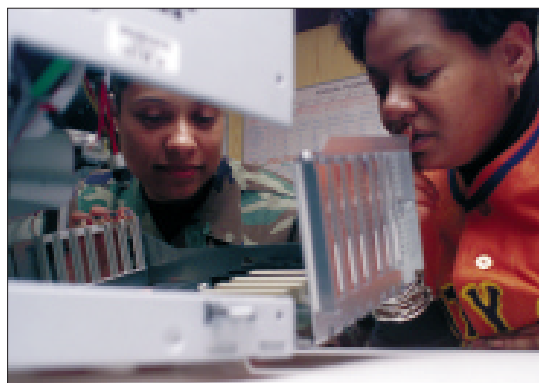
Stickney said the squadron combined dynamic initiatives, creative innovations and old-fashioned hard work to meet its mission.

In doing so, the logistics training flight was lauded by the 1999 U.S. Air Forces in Europe Nuclear Surety Inspection team for guiding the 52nd Munitions Support Squadron at Beuchel Air Base to a zero training deficient unit. Gold Flag members expanded their operation by using the internet to screen Defense Reutilization and Marketing Offices around the globe for reparable aircraft components. It also advertised its services throughout the base and wing's geographically separated units, resulting in thousands of dollars saved by repairing non-aircraft components, Stickney added.

"Through their initiatives, Gold Flag generated nearly \$158,000 to fund quality of life initiatives throughout the wing," he said.

The engine management element processed more than 3,150 engine historical records, 190 work packages and prepared 141 engine shipments. It also coordinated all update and tracking processes for USAFE's only F-110-GE-129, F-100-PW-100 and TF-34-GE-100A central intermediate repair facility during Operation Allied Force. This CIRF supported engines from Misawa Air Base, Japan; Shaw Air Force Base, S.C.; and the 52nd Fighter Wing.

Supporting the wing plans section, the squadron provided the backbone of logistics support during deployments, exercises and evaluations by filling key positions in the deployment control center, wing operations center and exercise evaluation team.



Senior Airman Esperanza Berrios

Senior Airman Kaira Brown, a 52nd Logistics Support Squadron computer support technician, and JoAnne Ware, information management technician, troubleshoot a computer.

The logistics operations flight is also home of the 52nd Fighter Wing joint contact team program, or mil-to-mil, a key component of the NATO Partnership for Peace program, Stickney said.

"At the heart of the wing's engagement mission, the mil-to-mil team hosted 15 events from six former Eastern-bloc nations, preparing them for participation in Partnership for Peace events," the major said.

With typical professionalism and enthusiasm, LSS spearheaded the first face-lift for the Eifel Air Park – the 52nd FW's display area. For the first time in six years, the F-4G was removed from its pedestal for a new paint job. The squadron also worked with Lockheed-Martin to procure new placards for each aircraft. This effort paid off with Lockheed-Martin donating the placards, thereby saving the wing \$2,500 in quality-of-life funds.

"The 52nd LSS's drive for excellence was critical to the wing's ability to seek, attack and destroy," Stickney said. "Increasing self-sufficiency, expertly managing diverse programs and aggressively accepting every tasking, it has proven its motto – deeds not words!"

Lock 'n load

Staff Sgt. Alex Barnett, left, and Tech Sgt. Leonard D. Mian, weapons load crew members with the 52nd Operations Group, load a flare onto an A-10. The 52nd Fighter Wing weapons load crew and jammer driver of the quarter competition takes place April 20 in Hangar 1. Competition begins at 7 a.m. An awards ceremony takes place at 4 p.m. in the hangar.

Senior Airman Esperanza Berrios



Awards

- Staff Sgt. John M. Stange, 606th ACS, technician-supervisor
- Senior Airman Cameron H. Mann, 606th ACS, technician

Other maintenance awards

- Senior Airman Jason C. Groth, 81st FS, wing maintainer of the year
- Montoya, wing maintainer of the year
- Staff Sgt. Kenneth S. Rose, 81st FS, wing dedicated crew chief of the year

- Staff Sgt. Todd R. Kenny, Senior Airman Michael A. Rupp and Groth, all from the 81st FS, wing load crew of the year
- Senior Airman Jermiah D. Smith, 22nd FS, wing jammer driver of the year
- Airman 1st Class Brian A. Rodriguez, 52nd Operations Support Squadron, wing maintenance management systems professional airman of the year
- Tech. Sgt. Christopher S. Ward, 52nd OSS, wing maintenance management systems professional NCO
- Master Sgt. Alecia Chatham, 52nd OSS, wing

- maintenance management systems professional senior NCO
- Tech. Sgt. Jeffrey E. Campbell, 52nd LSS, Dudley C. Sharp Award
- Maj. Donald S. Metscher, 23rd Fighter Squadron, Gen. Lew Allen Jr. Award
- Master Sgt. Gary L. Hayes, 23rd FS, Gen. Lew Allen Jr. Award

Communications, information award

- Staff Sgt. Steven M. James, Detachment 9, Air Force Broadcasting Service, NCO category